

T-13-4-1 – “Survey of Localities for Fourteen Threatened Crawfish Species in Louisiana”

Abstract: Fourteen species of crawfishes occurring in Louisiana are poorly known and listed as imperiled or rare by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Natural Heritage Program. Many records of these species are old and it is uncertain whether these species persist at the recorded localities.

Each of the localities were re-visited at least once and new locations in the vicinity of previous records were searched. Two collectors spent thirty field days searching throughout southeastern, southwestern, and central Louisiana.

Twelve of the fourteen target species were observed in small to moderate numbers. Several new localities were recorded. Data included voucher specimens, color photographs, GPS readings for collection locations, and general weather and site descriptive data.

Weather conditions hindered searches for some ditch and burrowing crawfishes. The Principle Investigator suggests further studies during September and October for *Orconectes blacki*, when water conditions might be more favorable than during the present study. This species is endemic to Louisiana, and its range may have diminished. Other species appear to be surviving and should be able to persist barring major disturbances. (Abstract by A. Ardoin {2007} from: “*Survey of Localities for Fourteen Threatened Species in Louisiana*”, Final Report (January 2003); Walls, J.G; Louisiana Fauna Project, Bunkie, LA; 18 pp.)

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